mfiquement. But we were nearly frozen to death before the thaw. I have fixed my table and lodging expenses and wages as cheap as I could, and when all is paid, have not more left than ten or twelve francs for plays or coach-hire.

I have to-day sent in a petition for the Blue Nuns to President Ban-as. I had asked to see him, but the clouds of the moment render it impossible*

December 2$th, 1796.

A merry Christmas to you all, and a good appetite for your goose-pies and mince-pies. I am neither merry nor sad, but should be happier in any clime or situation if I had you all round me.

You see by this I have survived our minister four days at least, and *I* conclude I shall remain quiet here. I say *here*, because It appears as if I should not be suffered to move from hence for some time.

I spare no pains, and by means of correspon-dents, succeed much in gaining proper accounts of prisons and prisoners. I hope to be

of almost
(not quite) as much use as if I were on
the spot.
I have already procured some lists,
and sent
relief to several places.